

PRESS RELEASE

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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Idaho Milk Production up 10.9 Percent

Idaho milk production during December 2005 totaled 868 million pounds, a 10.9 percent increase from the same month last year, and up 25 million pounds from November 2005, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service. Revised production for November 2005 totaled 843 million pounds, up 5 million pounds from the preliminary estimate and 13.0 percent above November 2004. Average milk production per cow in December 2005 was 1,840 pounds, a 40 pound increase from December 2004, and 50 pounds more than November 2005. The average number of milk cows during December was 472,000 head, up 1,000 head from November 2005 and up 37,000 head from December 2004.

Milk production in the 23 major States during December totaled 13.6 billion pounds, up 4.2 percent from December 2004. November revised production, at 13.0 billion pounds, was up 4.6 percent from November 2004. The November revision represented a decrease of 1 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,665 pounds for December, 55 pounds above December 2004. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.16 million head, 67,000 head more than December 2004, and 4,000 head more than November 2005.

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